

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus having a carriage to which a head member is mounted, comprising:

5 a toothed belt which extends between a driving pulley and an idler pulley and to which said carriage is attached;

10 preventing means disposed at a position where said preventing means are opposed to a back surface of said toothed belt in the vicinity of said driving pulley and adapted to prevent an idle rotation of said driving pulley with respect to said toothed belt.

15 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said driving pulley is rotatably driven by a driving motor.

20 3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said idler pulley is elastically biased by a tension spring in order to apply tension to said toothed belt.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said preventing means are opposed to a portion of said toothed belt to which said carriage is attached.

25 5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said preventing means are disposed nearest to said back surface of said toothed belt at a position where said

0020274250260

toothed belt is engaged by said driving pulley rather than a position where said toothed belt leaves said driving pulley in a condition that said driving pulley is stopped.

5

6. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said preventing means have a surface extending a tangential direction of said driving pulley at the position where said preventing means is nearest to said back surface of said toothed belt, and said surface is inclined with respect to a straight run portion of said toothed belt by an angle greater than 10 degrees and smaller than 30 degrees.

10

15

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a distance between said preventing means and said back surface of said toothed belt is selected to a range between 10% and 90% of a tooth height of said toothed belt.

20

8. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said preventing means are rotatably supported for rotation around a position nearer to said driving pulley than an extension direction of said idle rotation preventing surface of said preventing means at a side opposite to the nearest position between said driving pulley and said toothed belt.

25

00730574-130700

9. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said driving pulley has flanges at sides corresponding to both width-wise sides of said toothed belt, and other diameters of said flanges are smaller than a height of said back surface of said toothed belt mounted around said driving pulley, and said preventing means have a surface approaching to said toothed belt in a range where said surface covers said flanges at least partially.

10

10. An apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said head member is a recording head for effecting recording on a recording material.

15

11. An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said recording head is an ink jet recording head for effecting the recording by discharging ink from a discharge port.

20

12. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said recording head has an electrical/thermal converter for generating thermal energy used for discharging the ink.

25

13. An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said recording head discharges the ink from said discharge port by utilizing film boiling caused in the

0040274250260

ink by the thermal energy generated by said
electrical/thermal converter.

14. An apparatus according to any one of claims 1
5 to 9, wherein said head member is a reading head for
reading information held on an information holding
medium.

093054-120700